

November 2, 2020

Statehouse News

From the Office of State Representative Bride Rose Sweeney



Good Afternoon,

I wanted to reach out with a brief update on Ohio's new coronavirus relief funds and voting deadlines.

Coronavirus Relief Fund Update

Applications opened TODAY for the state's new COVID-19 relief funds using federal CARES Act dollars. These funds are limited, so I encourage you to apply as soon as possible or share this information with someone else who may qualify. Several of the application portals are already experiencing some delays due to the amount of interest.

The Small Business Relief Grant is designed to provide relief to Ohio businesses that have been negatively affected by COVID-19. These grants are \$10,000 each and limited to small businesses with no more than 25 employees. \$125 million is available for the entire state. More information.

The Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund is designed to provide \$2,500 grants, limited to liquor permit holders. \$37.5 million is available for the entire state. <u>More information</u>.

The Home Relief Grant is designed to help with rent, mortgage, water, and sewer utility bills. Households with an annual income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines will be eligible to catch up on past payments back to April 1, 2020 with additional assistance through December 30, 2020. Applications open November 2nd via your local Community Action Agency, which for Cuyahoga County is the Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland. \$50 million is available for the entire state. More information.

Election Reminders

Don't forget, the polls close in Ohio at 7:30pm tomorrow, November 3rd. Several polling locations have changed in Cuyahoga County, so if you're voting in-person on Election Day you can confirm your polling location here. (A map of all the polling location changes in Cuyahoga can be found here.)

If you voted by mail, please track your ballot to make sure your vote was received and will be counted by the Board of Elections. You can check here. If you received your absentee ballot but have not already returned it, I would strongly encourage you to use the drop box downtown at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections by 7:30pm on Election Day. You or an immediate family member can drop off your ballot. If you are unable to drop off your ballot, it must be postmarked by TODAY at a Post Office. Not all mail gets postmarked, so you need to request a postmark inside the office if you're relying on this method to return your ballot. Your voice matters, so make sure it's heard.

All the best,

Bride Rose Sweeney

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